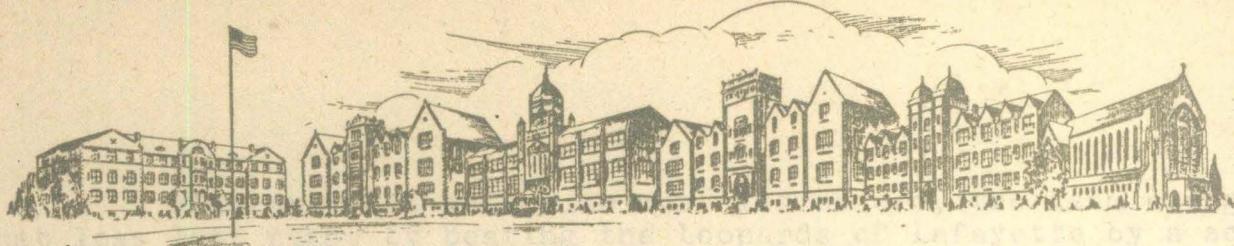


from



MUHLENBERG COLLEGE

Number 86
May 2, 1946

Dear Mules:

The first of May has come again and finds the campus in all of its spring beauty which so many of you know so well. Activity continues as usual as Navy trainees drill on the back campus and students hurry to classes, while faculty and staff endeavor to give of their best efforts to assure Muhlenberg men of the finest education possible. As the poet once said, "Life is real and life is earnest" and that saying is certainly true on the campus today.

It is with regret that I must announce that another of Muhlenberg's men has been added to the roll of those who gave their lives in World War II. FIRST LIEUTENANT PAUL R. KUHNS '42, listed as missing in action since October 22, 1944, has been declared "presumably dead" by officials of the War Department. PAUL was the Navigator of a B-24 Liberator bomber which took off on that day from a 10th Air Force base in Burma on a mission over Rangoon and Moulmein. After the run over the target, the plane was attacked by enemy fighters and severely damaged. No radio contact was made with the other planes and when last seen, the bomber was diving into low clouds to escape pursuit. It is presumed to have crashed into the Bay of Martaban and nothing has ever been heard of the ten man crew. LT. KUHNS was awarded the Air Medal and the Distinguished Flying Cross for meritorious service performed over China, Burma, Thailand and the Andaman Islands.

It is no longer "Plaster Pete" whose statue adorns the front campus and who was the target for occasional small boy's air rifles. The bronze statue, ordered five years ago, but not erected because of the shortage of critical materials, was put in place last week. The statue, originally erected in May 1942, during the observance of the 200th anniversary of the arrival, in America, of Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, is an exact replica of one of the two statues which the state of Pennsylvania has erected in the rotunda of the National Capitol to honor its distinguished sons. The drawing which appeared on the stationery which you men used during the war represents the time when the General, preaching to his congregation at Woodstock, Va., threw aside his clerical robes to lead the Eighth Virginia Regiment to fight for their country's freedom.

The Field House Campaign is moving along nicely with good reports coming in from the various rallies held in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. To date, the total figures on the campaign show approximately \$380,000.00 pledged to this fund with \$50,000.00 coming from alumni outside the Allentown area. This is another indication of the esteem in which Muhlenberg men hold their Alma Mater and their desire that this little college shall rank with the best in the land. Ten more rallies are scheduled for the next several weeks and indications are that the goal will be reached by the end of the year.

Since the last letter, the baseball team has defeated Lehigh 15-4 and were forced to postpone their game with Moravian because of rain. Twelve hits including a home run by ART STEIN, 'Berg left fielder, were too much for the Lehigh boys who garnered ten hits off WALTER BUSCH, winning pitcher. Lehigh used three pitchers, with STEIN'S home run coming in the sixth inning with two men aboard.

TO ITS MEN WHO FOUGHT FOR FREEDOM

With only one defeat to mar its record, the team avenged that loss last night by beating the Leopards of Lafayette by a score of 6-2 on the home field. 'Berg got only six hits off three Lafayette pitchers, but one of these was a home run by ART STEIN with one aboard in the third inning and another was a circuit blow by HANK HENRY with the bases empty in the fifth. N.Y.U. comes here tomorrow afternoon to mark the first baseball contest between the two schools.

Swarthmore, with an experienced All-Vet. team defeated 'Berg 7-2 last night. WALT WELLER won the only singles match for 'Berg and in the doubles teamed up with BOB RANKEN to win the only Match in that bracket. This is the first tennis match of the season, the one with Lehigh cancelled because of rain.

NORMAN MORRIS '42 and NELSON GRAHAM '40, who directed the M. Club Shows in the pre-war days, are on the campus again and have their hands full trying to make chorus figures out of such outstanding athletes as JIM DORAN, TUSS BECKER, JOE PODANY, EDDIE DONOVAN, GEORGE BIEIGHAUS, KEL BALDWIN, VAN COLES, and GEORGE SWEDA who has the role of the "Leading Lady". "Time Out" is the title of the production and it will be presented in the theatre of the Science Building on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights, June 6, 7 and 8th. Those who remember their other performances in the old days won't want to miss the show.

Two new candidates for basketball honors have enrolled at Muhlenberg for the September term. Dick McGee, former Central Catholic High star, and recently discharged from the Navy, and John "Rods" Garner, Allentown and Temple University star, have entered their applications. Garner, also recently discharged from the service, played with the American Legion team who was runner-up for the state title. He was named as forward on the All-Pennsylvania Legion team.

Coach Bud Barker's track team placed 4th in the Penn Relays last week in Philadelphia.

The weather again foiled some of the plans for the Muhlenberg-Cedar Crest Play Day scheduled for last Saturday. Plans had been made for tennis matches, volley ball games and a 12 inning softball game between mixed teams. A picnic was to have been held in the Cedar Crest Grove climaxing the day with a dance in the Muhlenberg West Hall auditorium. Ole Jupiter Pluvius had other ideas, however, but the dance was held as scheduled and the boys and girls tripped the light fantastic, or perhaps I should say, jitterbugged to the tunes of popular recordings. Weather permitting, these postponed events will be held some time soon.

And now for a few other news notes about the Muhlenberg family. Lt. CORBIER '20 has been reelected historian of Phi Sigma Iota, honorary romance language society. He was also named as Editor of the society's journal, both positions which he has held for the past seventeen years.

A meeting of Lutheran pastors, organists and choir directors was held on the campus last Saturday when these representatives of the music of the church met in the Chapel to discuss ways and means of improving church music. And so to the mail.

LUTHER WENNER '34 has been discharged from the Army where he served as Color Consultant and one of the researchmen for the Office of Strategic Services, Field Photographic Branch. He worked under Captain John Ford who recently produced the picture "They Were Expendable". LUTHER has returned to the Art Department of the Irvington Public Schools and was recently honored when one of his paintings was sent by plane as a gift to the family of the past president of the University of Delft, Holland.

LT. PAUL M. MERKEL '38 sent us a current address from Stuttgart, Germany. PAUL is working in the Secondary Schools and Universities Section in the Military Government program and reports a very pleasant "bull session" with SGT. MAHON HELLERICH '40.

CORPORAL RAY NIES '45 reports from Fukiowka, Japan, that the famed Second Division is getting ready, he hopes, to pull stakes from Japan and depart, he fervently hopes, stateside. Otherwise, RAY is enjoying life and looking yearningly toward the campus.

CAPTAIN KENNETH LAMBERT '39 hopes to return home in September. Recently he acquired a pedigreed German police dog for two cartons of cigarettes.

Doing Orthopedic work in one of the large Army hospitals in Japan and thoroughly enjoying the job is CAPTAIN EDGAR ERNST '38. He, too, is looking forward to returning soon.

DICK WIELAND '47 has been discharged after twenty nine months of service with the U.S.S. LCS (L) 23. He had quite a colorful tour of duty on board this ship that has to her credit ten Jap planes and 24 suicide boats. While on mine duty in Korea, 19 mines were destroyed by her.

JOHNNY VAN SANT '39, who most of you will remember from his broadcasts of local sports events has been released by the Navy. JOHNNY recently returned to the States from Guam where he served as chief announcer and sportscaster for Station WXLII, covering armed forces in the Marianas. In addition to this, he also produced several radio shows.

A letter from KARL HEINHARD '36 brings us up to date on his status. He and his better half are living on the campus of Cornell in the veterans quarters while KARL is attending the Veterinary School. He was discharged from service in November. ALTON CLAUSER '35 is taking a well-earned vacation before going back to work. Temporarily he is residing in Schencksville. Discharged on March 13 from the Philadelphia Navy Yard, EOB STAHL '43 writes us from Southampton, Pa. BOE said some nice things about our office and if it weren't for the fact that we blush easily, we'd repeat some of it.

MEL WATKINS '36, PAUL STOVER '44, and NORMAN GREENAWALT '41 wrote us on the same day and gave us the very same news. They were discharged and very glad of it. WINFIELD SCHWARTZ '34, now living in Schuylkill Haven, tells us of meeting FREDERICK KRAUSS '34 while in Manila. While overseas he was assigned to the United States Armed Forces Institute in that city as an instructor in the Technical Subjects and Mathematics. DR. ALLEN BRAUER '42 has returned home on terminal leave after three years of service in the Navy Dental Corps. He saw duty with a Naval construction battalion in South Carolina and on the West Coast, and later served with Carrier Aircraft Service Unit 36.

ENSIGN BOB BOSCH '47, writing from Tinian, Marianas, complains that he has practically nothing to do what with being executive officer of military government, personnel duties, public works, welfare and recreation, and first lieutenant's duties. MYRON KABO '42, also keeping busy, but in civilian life. He goes to work sometime this month with Sharpe and Dohme Laboratories in Philadelphia and has enrolled for the September term in Columbia to take up the study of general journalism.

The last letter in the file comes from our old pal, WILLIE CRESSMAN '42, who is still cruising around on the U.S.S. Greenwich Bay, at present anchored at Tawi, Tawi, Philippine Islands. With his usual prolific style he relates his activities since last writing this office. You'll probably be reading all about this latest epistle in the Alumni Magazine so we won't go into it now. Besides, there's not one thing we could point out without repeating whole paragraphs at a time. Thanks for the warning, Wil--we've posted notice for the evacuation of all offices. We're only kidding, of course,--Cressman hinted he might be dropping in on us sometime in July and we'll be looking forward to seeing him then.

Incidentally, any of you fellows who are in the vicinity of the campus, be sure to come in and see us. Not a day passes that we don't pause to bat the breeze with some returned G.I. You'll not only want to talk with us, but with all the boys coming back and finishing up their education, there's bound to be a couple that you chummed around with. Kenny's store is still a favorite rendezvous with Rosemark running a close second.

We've a few promotions in our record book so hold on while we shoot 'em out to you: LEONARD V. HENRY V-45, Q.M. 3/C, CORPORAL RAY B. NIES '45, LIEUTENANT KARL M. MEYERS '39, TECHNICAL SERGEANT IAN TARRET '42, SERGEANT DONALD MELCHER '47, FIRST LIEUTENANT PAUL A. STOVER '44, LIEUTENANT JUNIOR GRADE MATTHEW KERESTES '43, FIRST LIEUTENANT CARL F. KNOWLES '44, FIRST LIEUTENANT RODNEY ARNER '44, PRIVATE FIRST CLASS JAMES H. HARRON V-44, TECHNICAL SERGEANT ROBERT M. FREY '40, STAFF SERGEANT PAUL Y. SNYDER '45, LIEUTENANT JOSEPH E. MCKEONE '43, ENSIGN JOHN EVANS V-44, LIEUTENANT JUNIOR GRADE DENNIS WEBSTER '44, LIEUTENANT HOWARD B. GROETZINGER V-44, ENSIGN CHARLES J. DAROS V-44, ENSIGN CORNELIUS DELAVERGNE V-44, ENSIGN ANTHONY B. URSIC '46, CORPORAL KENNETH DOLLINGER '46, T/4 EARL D. BRYANT '37, ROBERT H. VELTE S 2/C V-45, and PRIVATE FIRST CLASS MARTIN BINDER '48.

Mr. Wagner left early this morning to attend the New York Rally for the Field House Drive. Evidently, he believed the rumor concerning that service letter written by Elsie and I (this is Kitty) so very long ago and thought with all that experience behind me I was qualified to complete the job that he started yesterday. Sooooo, I had it thrown in my lap while Mr. Wagner was on the way out of the door to catch the 10 o'clock train. Since then Lynn and I have been courageously going forward and we hope you fellows will understand the circumstances it has been written under. Originally, we were going to let you in on just where we started and Mr. Wagner left off, thinking you wouldn't notice the difference, but it wasn't necessary. You can almost tell at a glance but remember we have so little experience in this sort of thing.

Mr. Wagner said to be sure to wish all you fellows a speedy return to civilian life 'cause there's still nothing like it (no matter what the recruiting office might tell you), lots of luck in your future ventures, be sure to keep us informed of your address changes, and don't forget that we'll always be happy to see you when you're visiting the College.

Cordially,

John (this is a forgery)

John H. Wagner
Alumni Secretary